

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues today to honor and remember the legacy of one of the greatest entertainers, humanitarians, and patriots this country has ever known, Bob Hope.

Whether it was his early vaudeville routines, his many movies, or his numerous television specials, Americans always knew they could count on Bob Hope for a good laugh. But perhaps more impressively, Bob Hope selflessly dedicated himself to nearly 50 years of entertaining our men and women in uniform. It is estimated that 'G.I. Bob' performed for over 10 million American soldiers between World War II and Operation Desert Storm, an astonishing number that speaks to the depth of his dedication to our troops. In 1997, in recognition of his unflinching commitment, Congress unanimously voted to name Bob Hope an Honorary Veteran—the first individual so honored in the history of the United States.

I was privileged to have known Bob Hope, and have many memories of time spent with him and his wonderful wife, Dolores, and their family. When you were in his presence, you could not help but be in awe of an individual who was virtually unparalleled in his commitment to the United States of America.

During one of his many commencement addresses, Bob Hope reminded graduating seniors that they would soon take up the torch of freedom and knowledge and that, someday, they would pass that torch, burning stronger and brighter, on to others. Bob Hope carried that torch for over 100 years and has passed on to all of us a flame that continues to burn as a shining example of the virtues of humor, love, and patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join in honoring the life and legacy of Bob Hope.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support adoption of H. Res. 357. I congratulate the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) for shepherding this through the committee process, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 357.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

JUDGE EDWARD RODGERS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2075) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1905 West Blue Heron Boulevard in West Palm Beach, Florida, as the "Judge Edward Rodgers Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2075

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JUDGE EDWARD RODGERS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1905 West Blue Heron Boulevard in West Palm Beach, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Judge Edward Rodgers Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Judge Edward Rodgers Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I will defer to my friends on the other side of the aisle to speak on this worthwhile legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am representing the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) as a member of the Committee on Government Reform, and I am pleased to join the gentleman in consideration of H.R. 2075, legislation naming a postal facility in West Palm Beach, Florida, after Judge Edward Rodgers.

H.R. 2075 was sponsored by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) on May 13, 2003. The bill has met the Committee on Government Reform policy, and has been cosponsored by the entire Florida delegation.

Edward Rodgers has lived in West Palm Beach since 1950 when he married West Palm Beach native Gwendolyn Baker. Mr. Rodgers began his career as a teacher, later becoming an assistant principal. In reaction to the injustices of teaching in a segregated society, Mr. Rodgers became an attorney, graduating from Florida A&M University Law School in 1963.

He went on to become the first black county prosecutor and the first black judge in Palm Beach County. Judge Rodgers served on the bench for 22 years before retiring in 1995. On his first run for office in 1999, Judge Rodgers won a seat on the Riviera Beach City Council, where he presently serves as council chairman.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Rodgers has spent a lifetime working hard to assist those in need, championing the rights of those with drug addictions and those who are suffering from mental illness. Judge Rodgers has used his legal and judicial talent to improve his town, establishing a Saturday drug court, working as a mediator and court-ap-

pointed special master in arbitration and investigating back-room judicial appointments. Passage of H.R. 2075 maintains our tradition of recognizing those very special and deserving individuals.

I applaud our colleague for seeking to honor Judge Edward Rodgers in this manner, and I urge the swift passage of H.R. 2075.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS).

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time, and I also thank the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for participating and allowing this to come to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2075, a bill to name the Riviera Beach U.S. Post Office in honor of Judge Edward Rodgers. Eddie was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and moved to West Palm Beach, Florida, in 1950, where he met his bride and now-deceased wife, who was also a friend of mine.

Although he studied political science as an undergraduate student, he became a teacher schooling soldiers at segregated Roosevelt High School in West Palm Beach. Before being promoted to assistant principal, Eddie found himself in the position of arguing before the school board for equal pay for black teachers, but support was not there. The tyranny of segregation at that time caused him to go to law school at Florida A&M University where I had the good fortune of meeting him and his wife and his children. They all came to law school together.

The reason I know that story very well is I was in Judge Rodgers' class, one of six of us that graduated in that class from Florida A&M University. He went on to become Palm Beach County's first black prosecutor and then Palm Beach County's first black Court of Competent Jurisdiction judge. He would serve in the civil, criminal, and probate courts before retiring in 1995, after 22 remarkable years on the bench.

His accomplishments are numerous, and I have outlined some of them which I will include for the RECORD. He retired in 1995 and then really did not retire because he went on to seek elected office in Riviera Beach and went to work to restore his hometown, which he loves so much, as president of the Riviera Beach City Council.

Eddie Rodgers is a man that is known for his compassion, for his fairness, and his strength. He is a man that is respected and loved by his peers. In the entire community of Palm Beach, throughout the State of Florida, and this Nation, he finds himself a loved individual. I am honored to recognize a humanitarian activist, a former colleague, but most importantly, a great friend by naming the Riviera Beach Post Office in his honor. I obviously would urge the adoption of this bill. I

thank Members of the House of Representatives for participating and allowing this fine gentleman to be recognized. I wish him so many more honors because he is certainly deserving.

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2075, a bill to name the Riviera Beach U.S. Post Office in honor of Judge Edward Rodgers.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Edward Rodgers moved to West Palm Beach, Florida in 1950 after he met and married Palm Beach County native Gwendolyn Baker.

Although he studied political science as an undergraduate student, he became a teacher, schooling soldiers at segregated Roosevelt High School before being promoted to assistant principal. Disturbed by the bureaucratic tyranny of teaching in the segregated South, Rodgers set his sight on becoming an attorney.

He attended Florida A&M University Law School and along with myself, was one in a six-person class to graduate in 1963. Within 2 short years, Rodgers was appointed the first black county prosecutor in Palm Beach county, then the first black judge, and he would serve in civil, criminal, and probate courts before retiring in 1995 after 22 remarkable years on the bench.

His accomplishments are many. However, some of his career highlights include helping former Governor of Florida Lawton Chiles investigate allegations that the Palm Beach County's Judicial Nominating Commission made back-room judicial appointments. Establishing a Saturday drug court in Riviera Beach, West Palm Beach, and Delray Beach to champion the rights of the mentally ill and drug addicted. Establishing the Gwen Baker Rodgers Memorial Fund to honor his late wife. Serving as Assistant State Attorney. And working as a mediator and a court-appointed special master in arbitration cases.

When he retired in 1995, Judge Edward Rodgers pledged to continue to work to restore his town. In fact on his first run for office in 1999, Rodgers won a seat on the Riviera Beach city council, where he presently serves as council chairman.

Mr. Speaker Judge Rodgers is a man that is known for his compassion, fairness, and strength. He is a man that is respected and loved by his peers and within his community. I am honored to recognize a humanitarian, activist, former colleague, but most importantly a great friend through naming the Riviera Beach post office in his honor. I urge the adoption of the bill.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2075.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) for having the House consider his bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2075.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ARTHUR "PAPPY" KENNEDY POST OFFICE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1882) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 440 South Orange Blossom Trail in Orlando, Florida, as the "Arthur 'Pappy' Kennedy Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1882

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 440 South Orange Blossom Trail in Orlando, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Arthur 'Pappy' Kennedy Post Office".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy Post Office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from California (Ms. WATSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1882.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1882, introduced by the gentleman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN), designates this postal facility in Orlando, Florida, as the Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy Post Office Building. All of the Members of the Florida delegation have signed on as cosponsors of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the House is taking up this legislation that honors Pappy Kennedy. He became the first black city commissioner in the city of Orlando's history when he was first elected in 1972. He was truly a devoted public servant, just the kind of person who ought to be honored by this House. Pappy Kennedy sadly passed away earlier this year on March 28. With passage of this legislation, this Congress can appropriately name a

post office in Pappy's hometown that will forever celebrate his loyal service.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again recognize the thoughtful work on this legislation by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN), and I am proud to be a cosponsor of H.R. 1882, which honors Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy, and I urge all Members to support its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1882 designates the facility of the United States Post Office located at 440 South Orange Blossom Trail in Orlando, Florida, as the Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy Post Office.

I am pleased to join with our colleagues in the consideration of this bill that will name the post office after Pappy Kennedy. The bill was sponsored by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) on April 30, 2003. The bill has met the Committee on Government Reform policies, and has been cosponsored by the entire Florida delegation.

Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy was born in River Junction, Florida, in 1913. Ten years later, Mr. Kennedy moved to Orlando. He attended high school and college in the Florida area, and returned to Orlando to work at the Orange Court Hotel.

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A lifetime member of the NAACP, Mr. Kennedy volunteered with many organizations: Meals on Wheels, United Negro College Fund, among others. He served as a deacon in his church, Shiloh Baptist, and spent time working with young people.

In 1972, Mr. Kennedy was elected Orlando's first African-American City Commissioner and had the distinction of being elected by the largest percentage between contestants in the 101-year history of the city.

A tireless public servant and advocate, Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy passed away on March 28, 2001.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague for seeking to honor the late Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy in this manner, and I urge the adoption of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact that the original sponsor of the bill has arrived, I would like to yield this time to her if she is ready, and then I will speak, time permitting, after her.

With that in mind, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN), my good friend, and the good friend of the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.)

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) for his support in helping to get this bill to the floor and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW), in fact, the entire Florida delegation.